



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JAN. 7, 2011

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FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL RELEASES RESULTS FROM HOLIDAY ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN

~ Patrol arrests nearly 500 motorists for impaired driving ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Col. John Czernis, director of the Florida Highway Patrol, today announced the preliminary enforcement results from the Patrol’s participation in the nationwide *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* campaign. During the 19-day heightened enforcement period, the Patrol beefed up its force by having troopers postpone administrative duties in favor of road patrols and adding reservists and auxiliary troopers to patrol duty.

Troopers issued nearly 41,000 traffic citations and made 474 arrests for Driving Under the Influence of alcohol or drugs. They cited more than 13,000 drivers for speeding and nearly 4,000 for failure to buckle up. In addition, there were 56 traffic-related fatalities during the enforcement campaign.

“Our troopers worked hard to help our residents and visitors have a safe and enjoyable holiday period,” said Czernis. “Motorists who operate their vehicles in an unsafe fashion are a danger that puts innocent lives at risk. The men and women of the Florida Highway Patrol did their part to identify the unsafe drivers and take the steps necessary to decrease that risk.”

The members of the Florida Highway Patrol would like to remind everyone that it is the law to Move Over when approaching any authorized emergency vehicle or wrecker displaying rotating or flashing lights stopped on the side of a roadway. Also, remember that *FHP (*347) dialed from you cell phone contacts FHP should you need to report an aggressive driver or require roadside assistance.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov.

Preliminary Enforcement Results:

Dec. 16, 2010 – Jan. 3, 2011

Total Citations = 40,667

DUI Arrests = 474

Speeding Citations = 13,705

Safety Belt Citations = 3,848

Motorist Assists = 13,260